	Total Nos.	SC-Category
Retail Outlets	217	51
LPG Agencies	264	65

Self-Sufficiency in Hydro-Carbon Sector

270. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are Government taking towards achieving self-sufficiency in the Hydro-Carbon Sector;

(b) what percentage of our requirements of Crude Oil and Natural Gas is produced annually in the country; and

(c) the details of the production for the last three years, item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Given the increasing demand for petroleum products and the current level of import dependence of around 70 percent, it is difficult to envisage self-sufficiency in the near future. However, several important steps have been taken to increase oil and gas production, which include the following steps:

(i) to improve the recovery factor from existing major fields by implementing Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) schemes; in particular Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has taken up 15 fields for this purpose at an estimated investment of Rs. 10,000 crore, which would also help in accelerating oil production from these fields.

(ii) to increase exploration efforts through the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). Under the first round of NELP, Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) have been signed for 24 blocks in which works are in progress. Additionally, under the second round of NELP, PSCs have been signed on 17.7.2001 for 23 blocks.

(iii) to attract technology and investment, PSCs for 9 discovered fields, 8 in Gujarat and 1 in Assam, were signed on 23.2.2001 with consortia of Indian and foreign companies.

(iv) to explore in new areas, especially in deep water and difficult frontier areas, as also explore in the deeper layers of the producing fields.

(v) to develop faster the newly discovered fields and to step up the use of new technologies for seismic surveys, work over, stimulation operations, drilling of wells etc. in producing areas.

(vi) to acquire acreages abroad.

(b) The estimated domestic production of crude oil in 2001-2002 is about 30 percent of the requirement. In the case of natural gas the domestic production is estimated to be around 54 percent of the projected demand.

(c) The details of production of crude oil and natural gas for the last three years are given below:—

Production	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
Crude Oil (MMT)	32.72	31.95	32.43
Natural Gas (MCM)	27,428	28,446	29,477

MMT: Million Metric Tonne
MCM: Million Cubic Metre

Centenary celebrations of Digboi Oil Refinery

271. DR ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Digboi Oil Refinery in Assam, being the oldest refinery in Asia is completing 100 years of its existence;

(b) if so, the details of the incentives and promotional activities taken up to recognize its service to the Nation, excluding the celebrations; and

(c) the declarations, if any, already made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In addition to capacity increase and modernisation of the refinery with an investment to the tune of Rs. 1400 crores, the following events/ plans have been completed/are planned:

1. Energy Conservation Seminar conducted for Assam Industries in October, 2001.